

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 3526

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FOR EUR: WARREN ZIMMERMANN

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER F.) AU

SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO VIENNA: KREISKY VIEWS ON CSCE

REF: STATE 098382

1. AUSTRIA'S VIEWS ON BELGRADE FOLLOW-UP MEETINGS ARE
VERY CLOSE TO THOSE OF U.S. AND ITS NATO ALLIES. OFFICIAL

POSITION IS THAT PRIMARY PURPOSE OF BELGRADE GATHERING
SHOULD BE THOROUGH, NON-POLEMICAL REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION.
SECOND OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE AMPLIFICATION OF WAYS AND MEANS
FOR MORE EFFECTIVE FUTURE IMPLEMENTATION OF HELSINKI FINAL
ACT. DETAILED POSITIONS BEING DEVELOPED ARE AIMED AT
REALISTIC ASSESSMENT OF WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED AND WHERE
FURTHER PROGRESS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.

2. KREISKY HAS IN RECENT WEEKS PUBLICLY ARTICULATED CONCERN
THAT WEST'S PREOCCUPATION WITH BASKET III COULD GENERATE
CONFRONTATION WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES AT BELGRADE. HE
HAS SUGGESTED THAT WEST IS ALSO DEFICIENT ON BASKET
III, THAT BASKETS I AND II ARE OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE
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WITH III, AND THAT OVERRIDING IMPORTANCE OF
DETENTE REQUIRES CONTINUED ENGAGEMENT OF EUROPEAN
COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IN COOPERATIVE UNDERTAKINGS WITH
WEST.

3. LATTER CONSIDERATION SEEMS TO BE CENTRAL TO
KREISKY'S EVOLVING APPROACH TO CSCE. CHANCELLOR HAS

REITERATED IN RECENT WEEKS GOA SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN-WIDE CONFERENCES ON ENERGY, TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT, AND HAS OFFERED VIENNA AS SITE FOR TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE. HE FEELS DISCUSSION OF PRACTICAL ECONOMIC/ COMMERCIAL PROBLEMS IN FORUM OF EAST/WEST COOPERATION WILL CREATE MORE FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

IN EASTERN EUROPE.

4. ON HUMAN RIGHTS, KREISKY TAKES POSITION THAT TOLES OF VARIOUS ESTERN COUNTRIES ON SUBJECT DIFFER, WITH AUSTRIA ABLE TO ACHIEVE POSITIVE RESULTS ON DIFFICULT HUMANITARIAN CASES BY QUIET, BEHIND-SCENES DIPLOMATIC ACTION WITH COMMUNIST LEADERS. AT SAME TIME, HOWEVER, AUSTRIA HAS TAKEN UNEQUIVOCAL PUBLIC STANCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS WHEN CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE OR HELPFUL, E.G. SUPPORT FOR CHARTER 77 SIGNERS. FOLLOWING HIS RETURN TO VIENNA FROM WASHINGTON IN MID-MARCH, CHANCELLOR PUBLICLY PRAISED PRESIDENT CARTER ON HUMAN RIGHTS. HE VIEWS USG STAONDPPOINT AS COMMENDABLE AND CLEAR AND FEELS THAT POSITION OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL ON HUMAN RIGHTS IS AND SHOULD REMAIN VERY CLOSE TO THAT OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION. MEEHAN

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